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NGA Awards ClearView to ORBIMAGE Inc.

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) today awarded a multi-year ClearView contract to Virginia-based ORBIMAGE Inc.

The ORBIMAGE contract continues NGA's commitment to implement a significant level of partnering between the U.S. Government and the remote sensing industry. This contract covers a 22-month period, has a minimum guarantee of \$27.6 million and involves the company providing high-resolution satellite imagery to NGA. Two additional years may be added if funds are available in future budgets.

This brings the total number of contracts in the ClearView program to three. In January 2003, NGA awarded similar multi-year contracts to Colorado-based companies Space Imaging LLC (\$120 million guaranteed over three years with two additional one-year extensions possible) and Digital Globe, Inc. (\$72 million guaranteed over three years with two additional one-year extensions possible). All ClearView contract holders are capable of providing commercial satellite imagery with nominal (nadir) ground sampling distances equal to or less than one meter for panchromatic sensors.

There is the potential to award a total of \$500M over the term of these contracts with the minimum guarantees stated above to Space Imaging, DigitalGlobe and ORBIMAGE.

The ClearView contracts afford greater access and priority to Government customers while providing the industry with long-term commitments and an increased ability to use existing efficiencies in the management of federal customer requirements.

"NGA is very gratified that ORBIMAGE has joined with us as a ClearView partner," said NGA Director retired USAF Lt. Gen. James R. Clapper, Jr. "This is an important step because it helps make the commercial satellite capabilities of the United States even more viable and robust. We look forward to using ORBIMAGE products – and the products of our other ClearView partners – to help fulfill our mission requirements."

NGA (www.nga.mil) is a Department of Defense combat support agency and a member of the National Intelligence Community whose mission is to provide timely, relevant and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of our national security. Geospatial intelligence is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., NGA has major facilities in the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and St. Louis, Mo., areas with NGA support teams worldwide.

